

"Were it not for the labor press, the labor movement would not be what it is today, and any man who tries to injure a labor paper is a traitor to the cause."
—Samuel Gompers.

EAST BAY LABOR JOURNAL

THE ONLY OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER OF ORGANIZED LABOR IN ALAMEDA COUNTY

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REPORT —TO OUR READERS-OWNERS

A Tactful Beginning

To start off tactfully by praising the subject under discussion, let's concede, or insist, that Oakland Tribune really does a remarkably good job covering the news of the many municipalities in Alameda and Contra Costa counties.

Any newspaperman who has been through the mill on such projects notes with pleasure how promptly the lumbering old Trib gets around to telling about the latest doings of the city fathers all the way not exactly from Dan to Beersheba, but at least all the way from Danville to Newark.

Years ago the present writer called to the attention of the editor of one of the San Francisco dailies the good job the Trib was doing in those far off days on covering the news of all the little cities of East Bay.

"Yes," commented the San Francisco potentate, "a paper has to stay hick, or go cliffed. The Tribune has decided to stay hick."

Funny thing is, all these little communities which the San Francisco editor dismissed as hick are now going cliffed at a tremendous rate, and to such an extent that the Trib in sticking to its old policy is actually reporting one vast cliffed community.

Bartell's Pleasantry

So it would be a though it's high time for the Trib to go cliffed in one important particular, and that is, to be a little cheerful and open about reporting remarks made against it, or just plain kidding it.

A recent example: when the new Supervisors Duan and Sweeney were being sworn in last week, and Harry Bartell, so often attacked by the Trib, was making his excellent little farewell talk, he said one thing that caused hearty laughter, and that will long stay in the minds of all who heard him. This was it:

"I feel especially grateful to the Oakland Tribune for so constantly keeping my name before the public. Without the Oakland Tribune most people in the county would never have heard of me!"

Everyone in the room knew that statement would not appear in the news column of the Tribune. One man whispered to another:

"It may turn up in the Knave column a week or so from now with a little poison smeared on it."

Add a Cubit to the Tower!

But more in sorrow than in anger we ask the good old trouble-makers: Why not grow up, now that the East Bay is growing up, and become not merely more urban, but more urbane, more sophisticated, more willing to print as a matter of course such a pleasantry?

If such a thing had been said about the Chronicle by as important a public figure as Harry Bartell, that paper would have printed it. In similar circumstances, so would the News; and even the Hearst mop-rags, though doubtless they had wrung out a little dirty water from the mop on it while doing so.

If these fellows in a county which now has a smaller population than Alameda county can be that grown up, why can't the Tower add a cubit to its stature and follow suit?

Roy Woods Pleased By Dunn's Success

Roy Woods, Hayward Bartenders & Culinary Workers 823, told the Central Labor Council this week that he very much enjoyed being present at the ceremony when Frank Dunn Jr. was sworn in as a member of the Board of Supervisors.

"Our union was greatly interested in seeing so good a friend of labor as Dunn join the Board of Supervisors," said Woods.

East Bay Labor Journal inadvertently left Woods' name out of the list of labor people mentioned as present at the ceremony.

Joe W. Chaudet, Typographical 36, called the council's attention to the statesmanlike quality of Dunn's inaugural address on the needs and problems of the Second Supervisorial District.

Dunn has been elected vice chairman of the board. Kent Purcell of Berkeley, one of the two holdover Supervisors, was elected chairman.

Gardeners 1206 Sign McKenzie Flower Bowl

Bill Norman, business representative of Gardeners 1206, announced the signing on January 5 of a union contract with the McKenzie Flower Bowl located at the corner of Broadway and MacArthur Blvd.

He added that the Key Route Florists at 2212 Broadway had also reached an amicable settlement with Local 1206.

OFFICIAL NOTICES

The following unions will find notices of important meetings called by their officers on page 3 of this issue of the Journal.

CLERKS AND LUMBER HANDLERS 939
SHEET METAL WORKERS 216
HAYWARD PAINTERS 1178



MISS PRINTING WEEK—Mary Jarrell, newly crowned Miss Printing Week, is shown above flanked by two prominent AFL printing trades leaders who are active sponsors of the annual local Printing Week scheduled this year for the week of January 16-22. The pretty Miss Jarrell is a member of Bookbinders 31-125 employed by Moore Business Forms. With her in the above photo are (left) Fred Brooks, secretary of the Oakland Printing Pressmen & Assistants' Local 125; and Roy Heinrichs, secretary of the East Bay Allied Printing Trades Council. Other sponsors of the annual affair include the East Bay Club of Printing House Craftsmen, the Associated Printing Industries, the Supply Men's Guild, and the Silk Screen Process Printing Association.

Registration Deadlines For Cities' Voters

If you're not on the Great Register of Voters—and if you failed to vote in both the primary and general elections of 1954, your name has been removed—then here are the deadlines for East Bay City elections this spring:

Berkeley deadline: You must register by February 10 in order to vote in the April 2 election.

Oakland deadline: You must register by February 24 in order to vote in the April 19 primary election.

Alameda deadline: Already gone past; election is March 8. Won't be any deputy registrars around; have to register either at your City Hall or the County Courthouse.

Gov't Employees' Chief Lashes Out At Spoils System

James A. Campbell, national president of the American Federation of Government Employees (AFGE), marked the occasion of National Civil Service Week, January 16 through 22, by deploring the continuing attack on career Civil Service by members of the Republican administration who cloak their attacks behind the camouflage of "pious pronouncements."

Campbell's statement appeared in the AFGE News Service which was sent to all of the union's lodges including AFGE Lodge 1533 at the Oakland Naval Supply Center. A copy of the statement was forwarded to East Bay Labor Journal by Victor A. Wise, Lodge 1533 president.

Despite the fact that this week will usher in the 72nd anniversary of the merit system in federal government, Campbell declared, "there are still those who believe that government jobs should be part of the spoils of political victory."

He added that the present practice of arbitrary removal of top-paying jobs from the protection of civil service was having a bad effect on the morale of all government employees and "serves to discourage able men and women from making the government service their career."

All civil service employees, he said, regardless of their private political affiliations "strongly believe that only a non-political career service can give the American people the efficient, honest performance that the public service must have."

"We count on our friends in all walks of life to join us in protesting any actions which tend to undermine the merit system in the federal service."

Thompson's NO is NO, His YES is YES

City Manager Wayne E. Thompson of Oakland when he says YES means YES, and when he says NO he means NO, not maybe.

Such was the laudatory characterization of the new Oakland official by Central Labor Council Secretary Robert S. Ash in reporting to the delegates on various negotiations with Thompson on union affairs.

Thompson has given assurance that all city employees will be paid at least as much as are employees in similar work elsewhere in the Bay Area.

District Election Plan Petitions Are Available

Petitions to put on the Oakland city election ballot the proposal that City Councilmen shall be elected by districts instead of by city-wide vote are available at the office of the Central Labor Council for those who wish to circulate them.

The proposal has been endorsed by the council. All petitions must have signatures affixed and be in by the end of the month.

Miss Printing Week Is To Preside Over Dance And Dinner January 15

A dinner-dance set for tomorrow night, January 15, at the Mira Vista Country Club will serve to usher in Printing Week which will be observed in the Eastbay from January 16 to January 22.

Printing week is an annual publicity affair sponsored jointly by management and labor in the local printing industry.

The dinner-dance will feature the music of Rod McCauley's orchestra and the gala affair will be presided over by Miss Printing Week in the charming and beautiful person of Miss Mary Jarrell.

Organizations sponsoring Printing Week include the East Bay Allied Printing Trades Council, East Bay Club of Printing House Craftsmen, Associated Printing Industries, Supply Men's Guild and the Silk Screen Process Printing Association.

Among the individuals who have worked hard on various committees to assure the success of Printing Week are Fred Brooks, secretary of Oakland Printing Pressmen 125; Roy Heinrichs, secretary of the East Bay Allied Printing Trades Council; Ivy Hazeltine of Hazeltine Typesetting; John V. Adkins, American Type Founders; Clarence A. Palmer of Palmer Displays; Robert E. Rider, California Ink Company; and Henry Rathbun, Hagstrom Stores.

Ed Dowdall, Pressmen Leader, Passes at 70

A large representation of long-time labor friends turned out Monday to attend the funeral of Edwin Nuttall Dowdall who passed away on January 6 after a lengthy illness. He was 70.

Dowdall, who was considered one of the most energetic workers in the local AFL movement, was former president of Printing Pressmen & Assistants' Union Local 123 and a former employee of East Bay Labor Journal.

In addition to holding the post of president in his local union, Dowdall also held all other elective offices in the union at one time or another. During his active career he served as a delegate to the Central Labor Council, the East Bay Allied Printing Trades Council and the California Printing Trades Council. He had retired on a union pension a few years ago.

Dowdall is survived by his widow, Marie; a son, J. P. Dowdall; and three grandchildren.

Warehouse 853 Pickets Convince Local Firms

A few hours of picketing in front of the local branches of Keystone Wire Company and Borg-Warner Company ended with each firm agreeing to recognize the organization of their respective employees by Warehousemen 853.

Union contracts are in the process of being signed with both companies, it was announced here by William Nicholas, Local 853 secretary-treasurer.

Nicholas reported that it took six hours of picketing at the Keystone plant last Friday and the same number of hours of picketing at the Borg-Warner plant on Monday before the companies became convinced that the union was not fooling about its claim that the employees had joined Local 853.

G. W. Hawkins, Union Roofer Officer, Dies

A large contingent of old union friends turned out at Lodi on January 5 to pay their last respects to the earthly remains of Glenn W. Hawkins, business representative of Roofers Local 56 of Stockton, who died on January 2.

Brother Hawkins, who was 62, was well-known in Eastbay labor circles as a charter member and former business representative of Roofers Local 81 of Oakland.

CLC Election Rules: Seated By Jan. 24th!

The Central Labor Council was reminded again this week by Secretary Robert S. Ash that under the council's constitution, the council's viewpoint, contained in a lengthy report issued this week, will be carried in its entirety in the next edition of East Bay Labor Journal.

Nominations will be in order at the January 24 and 31 meetings.

Picketed Hospital Boosts Its Rates; Boycott Increases

The Board of Directors of Eden Township Hospital in Castro Valley voted last week to raise room rates from \$1 to \$2 effective January 7. According to Administrator Harry Blythe the increase "was made necessary as a result of recent salary raises and other benefits granted to unions and the California State Nurses Association."

Eden Township Hospital is being picketed by Office Employees 29 and the Central Labor Council for failing of the management to recognize Local 29. The pickets are asking all union members to carry necessary supplies into the hospital if they have first received a permit from the CLC.

The new daily room rate schedule to incoming patients includes: private \$20 to \$25; semi-private \$12 to \$15; and ward from \$16 to \$18.

San Francisco hospitals recently raised their rates to patients claiming it was necessary because of increases in wages. The union involved protested that the rise in rates to patients was high, and far out of proportion to the amount of the total wage increase. Figures are not immediately available on Eden Hospital.

At this week's Central Labor Council meeting Secretary Robert S. Ash said that union families due to the picketing, are refusing to permit members to go to Eden Hospital when ill. Drivers of trucks hauling in necessary supplies for patients are increasingly cooperating with the pickets, he added.

Anglin In Protest Of Fed's Decision

Marilyn Anglin, Office Employees, told the Central Labor Council this week that the executive council of the State Federation of Labor had decided not to press legislation this year providing that all private employment agency fees must be paid by employers, not by workers.

She said that her union has been trying for a long time to get private employment agencies prevented from exploiting workers seeking jobs, that some of them charge as much as a month's pay for lining up a job, and that she regretted very much the decision of the State Fed's board.

Demo Dinner Jan. 15 To Honor Cross, Kent

Democrats in the 16th Assembly District are sponsoring a dinner tomorrow night, January 15, at Norway Hall on Piedmont Avenue to honor Mayor Laurence Cross of Berkeley and Roger Kent, Northern California Democratic chairman. Kent is scheduled to report on the National Democratic Committee meeting held in New Orleans last month.

The dinner starts at 6 p.m. Music and other entertainment will also be provided.

Members of the dinner committee include: Ange Bjornson, Ellis Price, Mrs. Nancy Witt, Mrs. Helen Black, Mrs. Mildred Landrum, Mrs. Sam Blanford, Mrs. Robert Kroninger and Mrs. Hugh Thomas.

Dinner reservations may be made with Ange Bjornson. Phone OLYmpic 2-4566.

'Brain Wash' For Jobless Revived?

BTC in Drive To Amend the City Charter

The Building Trades Council is now circulating petitions among registered and qualified Oakland voters for the purpose of getting a proposed city charter amendment on the ballot at the next local election.

This fact was revealed here Tuesday evening by J. C. Childers, BTC business representative.

The amendment, if placed on the ballot and adopted by the local electorate, would alter the present method of electing city councilmen. It would require that "each of the Councilmen nominated from districts shall hereafter be elected by the qualified electors residing within the district from which said Councilman has been nominated."

At the present time most of the councilmen are nominated from the districts in which they reside but are voted on by the entire electorate of the city.

ECONOMIC REPORT

BTC delegates this week took a long, hard look at the economic future for the local construction industry for 1955 and generally agreed that the outlook was optimistic—but with reservations.

The council's viewpoint, contained in a lengthy report issued this week, will be carried in its entirety in the next edition of East Bay Labor Journal.

BENEFIT FIGHT

Childers announced that both the Building Trades and Central Labor Council are competing in the sale of tickets for a benefit professional fight card which will be staged at the Oakland Auditorium Arena on Thursday evening, January 27. Proceeds of the fight will go to Father Phillips' Sunshine Camp for Boys and Girls at Russian River.

Tickets to the non-televized benefit fight may be obtained at the offices of the BTC or the CLC in the Labor Temple. Ticket prices are \$2.50 and \$3.75 each.

MARCH OF DIMES

The council voted to send a financial donation to the Alameda County Chapter of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis, Inc.

Knight Backers In AFL Are Appointed

Governor Knight this week appointed Leo A. Vie, secretary-treasurer of the Los Angeles Building Trades Council, to the \$11,000 a year place on the State Industrial Accident Commission vacated by Ernest B. Webb when Knight appointed Webb as State Industrial Relations Director. Justice of the Peace George C. Faulkner of Noyo was also appointed to the commission, succeeding Dan Murphy Jr., son of the late Sheriff Dan Murphy of San Francisco, former head of the State Federation of Labor, who was a member of the President's Union.

Vie's and Faulkner's terms expire January 15, 1959.

John W. Quimby, secretary-treasurer of the San Diego Labor Council, was appointed by Knight to the Industrial Welfare Commission; Mae Stoneman of the Culinary Workers' Committee, was reappointed to the same commission. She has been a member since 1945.

Members of the Industrial Accident Commission other than the Chief receive \$20 for each day's actual attendance at meetings of the commission plus "actual and necessary expense incurred in the performance of their duties."

The patronage prize is the post of Chief, which is vacant at the present time, and pays \$10,000 a year. Any member of the commission may be appointed to this post.

All the labor people named above as appointed to posts by Knight belonged to the group within the State AFL which supported Republican Knight for Governor as distinguished from the large AFL group which supported Democratic Richard P. Graves.

Postal Clerks Rap Ike's Pay Scheme

President Eisenhower, who last year vetoed the measure increasing postal workers' pay and that of other Government workers, this week asked Congress to give \$600,000 U. S. employees, about a third of whom are postal workers, a pay increase.

The AFL National Federation of Post Office Clerks promptly commented that the President's recommendations were "a serious disappointment," and "so small as to be of little real help."

AFL Radio News On KGO Nightly

For the lowdown on the news heard and the people listened to, Monday through Friday, to the AFL's 15-minute radio news program on Station KGO (810 on the dial) at 7 p.m.

Edward P. Morgan, noted news analyst, is the commentator for the national AFL show.

Laundry Workers Expect Peace, BUT They're All Ready to Fight For It!

Eddie Maney, Laundry Workers 2, announced tranquilly at the meeting of the Central Labor Council this week that all officers of the union were nominated without opposition and reelected by acclamation to 4-year terms at a meeting held January 7 in Oakland Auditorium Theater.

With equal tranquility he announced that the union might possibly "be back in here" asking for strike sanction against the laundry owners.

"We've never had any trouble, and we assume they're just testing our mettle," said Maney. "But they may find out there's nothing worse than a bunch of mad women, and at the same meeting where the officers were reelected, the members voted 5 to 1 to strike if necessary."

Negotiations have been going on since November 1, with seven meetings held by the opposing committees. The owners have not pleaded inability to pay an increase, but have confined themselves to arguing that the cost of living isn't what it used to be.

The only new name in the list of those chosen to lead the union was Mary Clough, elected as a new trustee and executive board member to fill posts recently created by union authorization.

Those reelected were Walter East, president; Harold Green, vice president; Eddie Maney, business representative; Millie Castelluccio, secretary; Eddie Foy, Bob Luster, Bill Ruffi and Jessie White, executive board members; and Eddie Foy and Bill Ruffi, trustees.

Cleaners 23 Firm 'No Contract' Stand Brings Vallejo Up to Oakland Level

Russ Crowell reported to the Central Labor Council this week that the long sought goal of bringing workers in the industry in the Vallejo area up to the level of wages and conditions enjoyed in Oakland and part of Contra Costa County has finally been attained.

"Each year since we were asked to represent the workers in the Vallejo area," said Crowell, "we have made some gains, getting closer to the status here. This time we made it."

Three years ago, when Local 23 assumed responsibility for the Vallejo workers, there was a difference of as high as 35 cents an hour against Vallejo workers. The last raises, won by taking a firm "no contract no work" stand, brought increases all the way from 11 cents to 23 cents an hour.

"We just hired a hall in Vallejo and started a meeting," said Crowell. "Mighty little time was lost. We very soon had all twenty shops in the area signed up under the new contract."

Only eastern Contra Costa workers in the union's jurisdiction is now out of line on wages and conditions.

Knight Plans Taxes on Cigarettes, Beer, Possibly Liquor, Horse Races

Governor Knight has announced that he will ask the Legislature to approve a State tax of 2 or 3 cents a package on cigarettes, a 10 percent levy on the gross price of other tobacco products, and a boost in the beer tax.

He said he is also considering a rise in the tax on hard liquor and an increase in the share of the State's share of horse race money.

Organized labor has been opposed to sales taxes of any sort on the general principle that sales taxes hit hardest those least able to pay.

The daily press has been printing many stories pointing out that of the expected billion and a half budget, more than a billion is fixed by statute or wedged in the State constitution.

There have been proposals from time to time that these fixed charges be surveyed, and that there be a general survey of the whole tax structure of the State. One specific proposal is that all tax agencies of the State be drawn together into one consolidated agency so that collection could be more efficient and there could be better understanding of tax sources by the public.

CHILD CARE—Parents and the counties should bear expense of child care centers, and let the State pick up the rest, recommends the Senate Social Welfare Committee. The move would affect many working mothers. In Oakland 85% of the 930 youngsters cared for in such places during the day come from "one parent" families, which mostly means mothers.

INCOME TAX—Proposals to cut State income and corporate taxes to correspond with Federal cuts are meeting a cold reception. Assemblyman Thos. W. Caldecott, (R., Berkeley) chairman of the Ways and Means Committee, says the State "simply can't afford" to cut its revenues this year.

SMOOG—Assemblyman Randal F. Dieckman (Alameda) has introduced a bill creating a State Smog Control Board. Senator Breed (R., Oakland) has also introduced a smog bill.

DEMOCRATS—Assemblyman S. C. Masterson (D., Richmond) has been named chairman of the Democratic Caucus in the Assembly.

TEACHERS—Assemblyman E. E. Elliott (D., Los Angeles) has a bill to nullify political gag rules such as the S. F. Board of Education has imposed on teachers. State Fed Secretary C. J. Hagdury says such legislation has the AFL's all-out support.

DRAW POKER—Sheriff H. P. Gleason of Alameda county favors legislation which would make commercially operated draw poker games illegal. Jesse M. Unruh (D., Los Angeles) has introduced such a bill, contending that commercially operated games are causing working people in his district to lose their wages.

Chicago Teamsters Win Kraft Strike

A 31-day strike against two Kraft Food Company plants in Chicago has ended with Dairy Employees 754, an AFL Teamster affiliate, winning a 2-step, 17 cents an hour pay raise and additional benefits.

The agreement, which will run for two years, covers some 1500 production workers at the Kraft plants.

Dining Car Employees Vote for AFL Union

William E. Pollard, president of the AFL Joint Council of Dining Car Employees and general chairman of Oakland Dining Car Employees 456, was notified officially this week that dining car employees on the Burlington Railroad have voted to accept the AFL Joint Council as its bargaining representative.

The notification came from Richard W. Smith, international vice president of the Hotel and Restaurant Employees and Bartenders Union, and secretary-treasurer of the Joint Council of Dining Car Employees.

Office Employees 29 Sign \$11.30 Pay Pact

Office Employees 29 has won a \$11.30 per month pay increase for the office worker at the Cowden Manufacturing Company in a renewal agreement signed on December 1 between the company and the union, it was announced here by John Kinnick, Local 29 president.

Questions To Labor People Are Resented

The old "brain wash" tactics are being used again by the State Department of Employment on applicants for unemployment insurance.

Such was the charge made in three reports of workers who went to the Berkeley branch of the Department of Employment recently. One report was made in writing to Carpenters Local 36 and forwarded to the Central Labor Council. It was by a carpenter who told of being asked many questions when he applied for unemployment benefits which he resented, the questioner finally saying:

"We want to help you prevent breaking the law."

Secretary Robert S. Ash told the delegates that there had been two other complaints made on the way the questioning is conducted at the Berkeley branch office.

WOMEN PROTEST

One protest was made by a member of Office Employees 29. Another was by a woman who is not a member of any union, but appealed to Ash for advice after being roughly questioned.

"These reports indicate that something very similar to the old brain wash is going on," said Ash. "Unions which get any report of this sort will, I hope, turn them into our office."

The interviewer hands a paper to the applicant, it was reported, saying:

"You must answer all these questions truthfully or be prosecuted and sent to jail."

PAUL JONES' REPORT

Paul Jones, Laborers 304, later in the meeting, and not in connection with the reports of the seeming revival of "brain wash" tactics, said that some effort is being made by the Department of Employment to simplify procedure so that something similar to the former "blue card" system may come in use again.

Jones said that his union is "being used as a sort of guinea pig" in the experiment. A card is carried by the applicant for jobs pay, which bears the stamped endorsement of the union officials to show that the applicant is actually out of work and is trying to get it through the union's hiring hall. When this card is presented, there are no questionings of the applicant.

Jones pointed out that it is essential under this system to have the applicant faithfully seek work at the hiring hall, and to have the union officers endorse only those who have cards which merit such endorsement.

BURKETT'S BLAST

State Director of Employment William A. Burkett fired an angry blast at labor Tuesday when he told the daily press that analysis of a survey based on samplings of unemployment payments revealed that 44 percent of all jobless insurance benefit claims handed by the Los Angeles office were fraudulent; and that 48 percent of those handled by the San Francisco office were fraudulent.

Burkett said that he was going to take "vigorous steps" including the transfer of some of his personnel.

Trib, Which Raised Price 100%, Hurls Insult at Barbers

Barbers Local 134 has opened negotiations with the union barber shop proprietors for an 11 cents an hour across-the-board pay increase for some 800 AFL barbers employed in Alameda County and parts of Contra Costa County. Local 134 barbers now earn \$1.56 per hour.

It is expected that if the raise is granted, haircut prices in local union barber shops will go up 25 cents. The present union shop haircut price is \$1.50.

S. J. Olsen, Local 134 business representative, told East Bay Labor Journal that the AFL barbers, all skilled craftsmen, felt justified in seeking to raise the level of their pitifully low wage scales as compared to other skilled craftsmen in this area. Other important reasons why the barbers felt justified in their wage demands, he said, was the fact that union barbers, unlike most of their brother AFL unionists, did not enjoy such usual benefits as a health and welfare plan, vacations with pay or overtime pay.

The Oakland Tribune, which had no qualms about increasing its own price 100 percent some time ago, from the old 5 cents to the present 10 cents, declared in an editorial in Sunday's issue:

"To add another two-bits for a 15-minute session in the chair is adding insult to injury."

The Tribune proceeded to advise merchants to stock up on do-it-yourself barbering equipment and advised men: "Instead of getting trimmed, do the trimming yourself."

Comment in labor circles was that there was nothing surprising about this, as the Tribune is not noted for championing the cause of labor.

HOW TO BUY

Tax Loopholes for Non-Wealthy

By SYDNEY MARGOLIS
Labor Consumer Advisor for Labor Journal

A host of lawyers and accountants are working overtime now to find loopholes in the new tax code for the wealthy, and they are finding them. So let's try to find at least a few for the non-wealthy the moderate-income families who, contrary to modern legend, do pay the largest part of the Government's income-tax revenue (48 percent compared to the 39 percent supplied by taxpayers with earnings over \$10,000).

First of all, let's put it on the public record that the new tax law is even worse for moderate-income people than was realized from the early publicity about its "benefits". At least three jokers have appeared in the new rules that will deprive moderate-income families of much of the tax-saving that had been advertised as of special benefit to them.

The increased medical deduction actually has not been increased as much as was publicized. It was publicized that now you can deduct all medical expense over three percent of your income, instead of the excess over five percent as before.

But when you see the new Form 1040 (the tax return form) you will notice that the new tax law requires medical bills, and drug and medicine bills to be accounted for separately. Where formerly, both were deductible if they amounted together to more than 5 percent of income, now medical bills are deductible if they amount, alone to more than 3 percent of income, and drug and medicine bills are deductible if they amount, alone to more than 1 percent of income.

Thus Congress has taken away from the moderate-income taxpayer a two percent saving, and with the other hand, took back one percent.

CHILD-CARE

The new deduction for child-care may be of some help to widows and widowers, but turns out to be of little value to the working wife for whom it was advertised to be a great help.

This rule allows working women, widows and widowers to deduct up to \$600 for the care of children under 12 (or older if physically or mentally incapable). But for a working wife even this limited benefit is reduced by the amount of her husband's and her joint income over \$4,500. If their joint income is \$5,000, she can deduct for child-care expenses to permit her to go out to work, is \$100.

If their joint income is \$5,000, she can take no deduction at all. This restriction will actually bar most working wives from getting any help from this tax "saving".

The third bit of eighth-hand is the new retirement income credit. This new law says retired people 65 or older (or retired public workers even if younger) now can take a 20 percent credit on up to \$12,000 to taxable income less the amount of Social Security or railroad retirement benefits they received for the year, and less any earned income (from employment) in excess of \$900.

However, the Internal Revenue Service has worked out the new Form 1040 so that the amount of help to lower-income retired people is reduced. The new Form 1040, as the Prentice-Hall tax reporting service points out, tells the taxpayer to add up his retirement income, (dividends, rents, pensions, etc., but not Social Security or income from employment) then to take this total "or \$12,000, whichever is lesser", and reduce it by the reduction factors listed above.

Prentice-Hall says this interpretation seems to be contrary to the law. Suppose Joe Jones has Social Security of \$600 and taxable dividends of \$600. Bob Smith has Social Security of \$600 but dividends of \$12,000. Both have earned income (from employment) of \$900.

The way the revenue service has worked it out, Joe Jones' \$600 of Social Security is subtracted from his \$600 of dividends, leaving no retirement income balance on which he can take a tax credit. But Bob Smith's \$600 of Social Security is subtracted from \$12,000, according to the Administration's interpretation, leaving \$600 of retirement income on which he gets a 20 percent credit—a saving of \$120 in tax.

LEGAL TAX SAVERS

There are several legal tax savers in the new laws which moderate-income people should be alert to use to keep down their tax bills. One is the new sick pay rule. This permits you to exclude from taxable income any sick pay received from a wage continuation plan maintained by your employer.

Many tax experts feel that a regular pay received while ill comes under this provision as long as the employer has a uniform policy of continuing the wages of most workers when ill.

A union of government employees has already scored an early

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GL 2-1264
GL 2-1263

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News About Women

Good News!

There is one outstanding group of workers who never strike and seldom complain, although they work from early morning to late at night just for bed and board. They are experts in economy and labor problems—from finance to cooking.

Burdened by responsibilities, driven, worried, reproached and looked down upon, they never revolt.

No sacrifice is deemed too great for them to make; incompetency and illness alike is forbidden to them.

They die in harness and are too soon forgotten. They are the unsung housekeeping wives of laboring men—Upolsterers Journal.

Making Ends Meet

Shop Ahead!

By NANCY PRATT
AFL News Service

January and February are probably the best months of the year to do Christmas shopping — for Christmas 1955, that is. This may sound silly at first, but consider the savings to be realized at after-Christmas sales.

If you have the energy left to fight through crowds returning this season's white elephant gifts, and if you are fortunate enough to still have money left from the 1954 Christmas, shopping for next Christmas this January or February has the advantage of offering Winter apparel which the August or early Fall sales will not. However, there are certain pitfalls. Don't buy gimmick items likely to be out of fashion by next year and therefore recognizable as last year's merchandise. Also, if you are shopping for presents, avoid items marked down because they are slightly damaged or dirty.

Fricassee

The Voice of the Cooks, published by Cooks Local 44 in San Francisco, gives this recipe for Chicken Fricassee Auvergne:

Cut a tender roasting chicken into serving pieces and place the pieces in an earthen baking dish with a piece of bacon rind or a slice of bacon, 1 onion and 1 carrot, both sliced, 1 small stalk of celery with leaves, 2 cloves, 1 bay leaf, 1/2 teaspoon thyme, 2 cloves of garlic, unpeeled, and a large sprig of parsley. Add 2 tablespoons vinegar, about 1 1/2 cups water, salt and pepper to taste, and a piece of butter the size of an egg. Cover and cook in a moderate oven (375° F.) for about 45 minutes, or until the chicken is done.

Remove the pieces of chicken and strain the stock. There should be about 1 1/2 cups of liquid. In another pan blend 1 1/2 tablespoons butter with 1 tablespoon flour and gradually stir in the hot stock. Cook the sauce, stirring for 5 to 6 minutes. Add the pieces of chicken and simmer together for 1 to 2 minutes. Add 1/2 pound mushrooms, sliced and cooked, and 1 teaspoon chopped parsley and thicken with 1 egg yolk mixed with a little of the hot sauce.

Group Asks Better Child Labor Laws

NEW YORK CITY — (AFL News) — The National Child Labor Committee called on more states to improve their child labor laws and to enforce them more strongly.

The committee also called for helping teenagers secure better work experience, increased guidance and counseling services in the schools, greater efforts to persuade students to complete their high school education, and adaptation of the school curriculum and services to meet the needs and interests of students who are potential "dropouts."

The committee said that 2 million children between 14 and 17 years of age were at work full or part time during the 1953-54 school year and that 1 million more were employed during the summer.

The committee denied the often-heard claim that "child labor laws are breeding idleness and thereby contributing to juvenile delinquency."

"There is no direct relationship between employment and juvenile delinquency," said Mrs. Gertrude Zimand, general secretary of the group. "Delinquency is the result of the interplay of many forces, internal and external. Employment—or lack of employment—is one factor that may enter into the total picture."

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Your Questions

Answered About Social Security

The Oakland branch of the U. S. Social Security Administration, Bureau of Old-Age and Survivors Insurance, has begun a weekly series of articles dealing with changes in the Social Security Law resulting from new amendments to the law passed by Congress this year. The first in the series, presented by East Bay Labor Journal as a public service, is offered below.

We'll be receiving thousands of questions about social security because of the 1954 Amendments to the Social Security Act, signed September 1, 1954 by President Eisenhower. However, many people with questions won't visit the district offices, so we are going to answer some of those unasked questions in this series of articles.

It is difficult to realize that so many people know so little about something that is as important to them as their social security. But we find that this is true in many cases. Common sense tells us the importance of translating the technicalities of the social security law and its changes into the thought and life of the American people.

HOW IT AFFECTS YOU

In this series of articles on the old-age and survivors insurance program, we shall describe the recent changes in the social security law as they will directly affect all members. We do this with the sincere hope that you will gain a more complete understanding of your social security and its effects on you and your family.

When Congress proposed and enacted the new amendments, it did so with a main view toward bringing social security insurance benefits better in line with current earning levels and living costs. And just as important are the parts of the law which extended the coverage of social security to more people, and in this way make benefits available to more workers in their retirement and to their families when they die.

OBJECTIVES

To accomplish this end, the changes in the law had to have two objectives. First, social security protection had to be extended to more types of jobs so that a greater number of people could participate and through their contributions qualify for social security benefits. This was written into the new law, and now nearly nine out of ten workers are included under the program. And of about 63 million jobs in the nation and abroad, over 55 million are now covered by social security.

The second objective was that of giving increased benefits to those already receiving old-age and survivors insurance payments as well as to those who will be getting them in the future. Three important points under the increased benefits are the increase in the amount of wages which will be counted for social security purposes, drop-out of low or no earning years; and a revised formula for computing benefit amounts. Another important provision in the new law is the protection of insured status and benefit amounts for those who are totally disabled.

SELF-SUPPORTING PLAN

This may be a good place to point out that old-age and survivors benefits are payable only to persons who have worked for a specified length of time in employment covered by social security and to the qualified dependents of such workers. Social security benefits are paid out of a trust fund built up entirely from the contributions of covered employees and their employers, plus accumulated interest. Thus the financing of the system is completely self-supporting.

In this article we have sketched the full scope of the Social Security law as a huge picture. Next week we shall write about just one phase of the new amendments to the law.

Metal Trades Council To Convene on Jan. 17

A large contingent of local labor leaders have already left for Long Beach to attend the annual Pacific Coast District Metal Trades Council Convention which is scheduled to run from January 17 through January 20.

East Bay Labor Journal is informed that O. K. Mitchell, financial secretary-treasurer of Shipyard Laborers 886, has been appointed chairman of the convention's Finance Committee.

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Federal Aid Urged For School System

A press release from the AFL American Federation of Teachers from Providence, R. I., states that Carl J. Megel of Chicago, president of the American Federation of Teachers, challenged the report of an Eisenhower committee of which he is a member, that federal aid to education is unnecessary and declared the administration is showing more concern over the country's livestock than the education of its children.

Megel, member of the subcommittee on Federal Responsibilities in the Field of Education, spoke at a New England regional conference luncheon of the American Federation of Teachers.

He said he wrote Dr. Adam S. Bennion, Utah educator and committee chairman, that he "cannot in good conscience" sign a report which holds that federal aid to education is not needed.

Megel attended a recent Washington meeting of the subcommittee which formulated the report to the Commission on Inter-Governmental Relations set up by President Eisenhower to study and make recommendations on various governmental policies and agencies.

Megel, only member of the committee representing public school teachers, blasted what he called a "perversion of logic" wherein the federal government accepts responsibility for financing the raising of cows and pigs, or building roads, but denies this prerogative to the country's children.

In challenging the report, Megel wrote: "I have had occasion to visit nearly 500 schools in the last several years, and can say without reservation that the condition of

Steamfitters Set For 1955 Contest

By JIM MARTIN

At our last meeting the installation of our officers was held with General Organizer Archie Virtue officiating as the Installing Officer. Brother Virtue also addressed the membership and his address was well received by the large attendance present.

The Joint National Apprenticeship Pipefitter and Plumber Committees, at their meeting held in Washington, D. C. on December 9 and 10, 1954, adopted rules and regulations to govern the second National International Apprenticeship Contest, again to be held at Purdue University, Lafayette, Indiana, from August 10 to August 15, 1955. Prizes of \$1,000 for first place \$500 for second place and \$250 for third place winners for both pipefitter and plumber apprentices will again be awarded. All expenses, such as transportation, room, board and lodging, wages, etc., will be borne by the United Association for Apprentices only. Also included in this year's local and state contests will be contests for third and fourth year apprentices, along with the fifth year apprentices. Apprentices eligible to participate in local, state or international contests must be in their respective periods as shown by records in the international office under the date of August 10, 1955. General President Martin P. Durkin, back in the office after his serious operation, advised our committee that this year's contest would also include a general conference similar to the one held in Washington, D. C. in 1954. There will be a six-day apprentice instructors course, sessions for business managers and agents, various speakers on atomic energy and how it will affect our industry in the future, also meetings to explain various international agreements, pertaining to jurisdiction. Back to this year's contest—our Local was represented at last year's contest by Linton French, Jr., and we feel that we have a candidate for this year's state contest.

We are very sorry to report the deaths of Brothers Les Pope and Bill Benedict. The officers and membership wish to express their deepest sympathy to the families in their hour of sorrow.

The next membership meeting will be held on January 20, at which time the report of the officer's meeting will be discussed as it pertains to financial matters. We urge that you make every effort to be in attendance at this meeting.

The Kaiser Foundation Health Plan is billing us a month in advance. Will the members who belong to this plan forward both January and February dues to this office before January 25?

Electricians 1245 Welcome Educational Films at Meetings

Officers of Electrical Workers 1245 are wasting no time in making good use of the 16mm movie projector they purchased for the showing of educational films at union meetings.

The very first week after the projector arrived, educational films were shown to the memberships of local branches in Oakland and San Francisco with good results judging from the enthusiastic reception of the viewers.

George L. Rice, Local 1245 education and research director, announced plans for the showing of many more such films in the future. He added that there is a large backlog of educational films available for union purposes which may be borrowed for the asking from the AFL Film Library, the AFL Committee to Combat Intolerance in San Francisco, and the University of California Film Library.

Cemetery Workers 322 Reelect J. Gemmell

Cemetery Workers 322 reelected James Gemmell (Evergreen Cemetery) as secretary treasurer of the union at an election held here on January 5. Reelected with Gemmell were Harry Hitt (Mountain View Cemetery) as sergeant-at-arms; and W. J. Matthews, delegate to the Central Labor Council.

Other officers elected included Pat Joyce (Holy Sepulchre Cemetery), president; Ned Morris (Mountain View), vice president; Clifford Davidson (Chapel of the Chimes), recording secretary; Edward Reith, business representative; and Leroy Arnold (Sunset Cemetery), trustee.

Painters Urged To Check Earnings

By HUGHIE RUTLEDGE

Brother Homer Strain at present is in the Oakland Army Hospital, 13th and Harrison Streets, where he would appreciate a visit from some of his old friends. As far as we know this is the only brother confined to a hospital at this time though we do have many of the brothers going to the doctor.

It would be well for the brothers who are now unemployed or who have been working short hours to check up on their earnings so as to maintain their health and welfare benefits. The easiest way to do this is to go back 90 days and see if you have 140 hours in that time. If you find that you are about to run out of benefits you can pay \$9 a month and this will keep you in good standing in the fund. This payment can be made if you filled out the voluntary contribution sheet that you received by mail the past summer. If in doubt call the office.

The first meeting of the representatives of the bay area unions in regard to the new agreement was held on Tuesday this week. It was agreed that all proposals from any local union must be presented to the negotiating group no later than March 1, 1955. This means that all Locals should notify their membership that any changes or additions in the new agreement should be presented to their Locals during the month of February.

Work remains slow as can be expected at this time of the year. What with rain, frost, etc. we are receiving very few calls for men, however the outlook is good and we hope to have all the brothers back on the job shortly.

Again we remind the brothers that the welfare office will not accept cash register stubs for medicines that are purchased. You must submit a receipt for any prescription you have filled. The receipts should show that the purchase was made for a prescription and the number of the prescription shown. This applies to Permanent and all other drug stores and if your druggist refuses to give you a regular receipt (NOT CASH REGISTER STUB) you better change druggists if you expect to get reimbursed by the welfare plan.

Next meeting will be January 27.

Office Union Asks Members to Gripe

Officers of Office Employees 29 are now tabulating the results of a union-sponsored confidential questionnaire which has been sent to the entire local membership. Purpose of the questionnaire is to learn what the members themselves think about such matters as contract demands and union policies and activities.

According to John Kinick, Local 29 president, more than 30 percent of the 1500-membership have filled out and returned the questionnaire.

"So far," he said, "we've learned about many grievances held by our members which we probably would have never known existed otherwise. All officers of this union are agreed that this is an excellent method for giving guidance to union officers as to the attitudes and needs of their memberships."

He added that the good results obtained from the questionnaire indicated that similar campaigns will be conducted in his union on an annual basis from now on.

1220 Homes Built In Oakland in '54

During 1954, the Oakland Department of Public Health & Safety reports, building permits were issued for the construction of 1220 family units, totaling \$10,287,584. Of these, 502 were in one-family dwellings, and 718 in multiple dwellings.

GOVERNOR KNIGHT will deliver the keynote address before the 1955 Statewide Meeting of the California Industrial Safety Conference, says Paul Scharenberg, Director of the State Department of Industrial Relations. The meeting will be held at the Biltmore Hotel, Los Angeles, on February 13 and 14.

OFFICIAL NOTICES

Clerks and Lumber Handlers 939

Commencing January 1, 1955, dues will be increased 50 cents per month.

The next regular meeting of this Local will be held on Friday, January 14, 1955 in the Labor Temple, 2315 Valdez St., Oakland.

Your union officials wish to take this opportunity to extend to all of you and your families a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Fraternally,

JOSEPH BOTELHO, JR.,

Financial Secretary

Sheet Metal Workers 216

You are again warned that you are required to notify the Business Representative when sent by an employer into the jurisdiction of another Union or if you should enter the jurisdiction of another Union seeking employment. The Constitution is very clear and specific regarding this requirement.

This phase of the violation is causing considerable trouble at this time and it can be expected by the members violating this requirement to have charges filed against them by the Business Representative of the local in which the violation takes place. A telephone call or post card will usually satisfy the representatives of the other Unions. Before going into the jurisdiction of another Union, if you do not know whom to notify, call this office and we will give you the information.

Fraternally,

LLOYD CHILDS,

Business Representative

Hayward Painters 1178

Friday, January 21, is the date of our next regular meeting, and it will be held in the new hall at 1541 Mattox Road, Hayward.

Fraternally yours,

ROBERT G. MILLER,

Recording Secretary

Local Steamfitter in London: Rail Troubles, Holidays, Union Attitudes

Herbert A. Perry, Steamfitters 342, in England studying at the London School of Economics, writing shortly before the threatened railway strike was called off for more negotiations, sent the following to East Bay Labor Journal:

The holidays are over and everyone is settling down to the old routine of the workaday world. That is, everyone but the rail transport workers who are planning to strike if their demands are not considered.

There is no doubt about the fact that they are underpaid and that the cost of living is rising. Not too many years ago, a job on the railroad was considered to be an excellent one, good wages, security and a retirement scheme. Today, however, you go to the rail transport industry when you can't find anything else.

Also, the railroads are impoverished and need new rolling stock and a general overhauling, wage increases mean a postponement of these needs or a substantial subsidy which the Tory government does not like to give in the face of rising rearmament costs.

Everyone seems to be taking the matter calmly, however, and are appreciating the fact that the railroad unions waited until after the holidays to take strike action.

I spent Christmas day with a group of American and British trade unionists at the home of a carpenter in London. We had turkey, which sold here for as high as \$1.40 a lb., and the traditional Christmas pudding.

That evening I was invited to the home of Norman MacKenzie, who writes for the 'New Statesman and Nation' (a liberal socialist weekly paper) and is a Labor Party candidate for Parliament. We discussed the railroad situation and after taking a poll of the

Happy New Year to all,

HERBERT A. PERRY

29 Denning Road

London, NW 3

Ritchie's AD-X2 Keeps on Livening Up That Old Battery of Publicity

The battery additive AD-X2, disputes over which caused one of the early Cabinet crises in the Eisenhower Administration, got into the news again with the filing of a \$13,200 breach of contract suit against its promoter Jess M. Ritchie by J. David Womble of New York City.

Womble said in his action filed in Superior Court here that he paid the sum in question for 12,000 battery treatment units and for the distribution franchise in New York for 1951. Womble claims that Ritchie never delivered the stuff, never returned the money.

AD-X2 is still under investigation by the Federal Trade Commission in Washington as to whether or not false advertising claims have been made for it.

Ritchie, who ran on the Republican ticket unsuccessfully against Democratic Congressman George P. Miller in November, attained national publicity earlier when the head of the Bureau of Standards was fired by Secretary of Commerce Weeks after agents of the bureau following tests reported unfavorably on AD-X2.

Scientists all over the country made so many protests that they believed the firing was political.

The distinguished scientist was returned to Federal service, and Assistant Secretary of Commerce Sheaffer, held responsible for the firing, resigned from the Cabinet and went back to making fountain pens.

The first heavy snow of the year has hit London today, (January 4) and is very cold, a great contrast to the mild weather that prevailed during the Christmas season.

Happy New Year to all,

HERBERT A. PERRY

29 Denning Road

London, NW 3

Haggerty Outlines AFL Program in Legislature

"Labor defensive energy will be directed to defeating compulsory open shop and secondary boycott legislation," C. J. Haggerty, secretary-treasurer of the State Federation of Labor, announced in Sacramento this week. He is watching the course of proceedings in the Legislature.

On the positive side, said Haggerty, "essentials of the State AFL program are tied up in plans to liberalize the unemployment insurance, disability insurance, and workmen's compensation laws."

State AFL headquarters this week sent all patrons of the pamphlet, "Right to Wreck," an analysis of the open shop drive. The drive is being pushed by the U. S. Chamber of Commerce and the National Association of Manufacturers.

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EAST BAY LABOR JOURNAL
1105 Franklin Street
Oakland 7, California

FOUNDED APRIL 3, 1926
Only Official Publication of
AFL Central Labor and Building
Construction Trades Councils
of Alameda County.

January 14, 1955

OPINIONS

LIKES JOURNAL

Editor, Labor Journal:

I am a member of Local 823 (Hayward Bartenders & Culinary Workers Union) California.

I would love to express my deep and sincere appreciation for your Labor Journal.

I am the mother of three boys, whose ages are ten, twelve and fourteen. Each of us read articles in the Journal, and although they are still so young, they are beginning to understand Unions, Labor and the effect it will have on their lives as they grow older. Several of your articles have been used in school by my son, Larry, as a subject for a composition and has won him an A and nice comment from his teacher.

I especially liked the article, "To The Ladies." It is true. Since I have worked with children, both boys and girls, in Cub Scouts and 4-H Club work, I can sincerely agree with you.

But, Mr. Editor, I still like boys best.

Sincerely a Journal Fan,
Christine Smith
Niles, California

Jan. 15, 1955

Editor's Note: The particular "To The Ladies" column to which Sister Smith refers is that in our issue of December 31 in which the following summary of a report on the difference between boys and girls was given: "Boys, it seems, are more prone to temper tantrums, overactivity, competitive games, and destructiveness." Interestingly, our "To The Ladies" column on page 2 of this present issue contains some further comment on Sister Smith's letter.

IN GEORGIA

In Georgia, 18-year-olds can vote and 15-year-olds can drive cars. Social pages in the newspapers give high-school kids the treatment which until recently was reserved exclusively for the smart suburban set. More and more space is being devoted to their momentary fads, such as bleaching a forelock, wearing shabby dungarees and belonging to Liberators and Eddie Fisher fan clubs. Newspaper reporters hold street-corner interviews to get their opinions on love, petting, segregation and the A-bomb.—J. R. Fisman, in the New Leader.

MERGER

In the atmosphere which the no-raiding agreement has created, the unit committees of the AFL and CIO have unanimously subscribed to a resolution proposing that the two organizations merge into one national trade union center, with the integrity of each affiliated union being preserved and protected. The detailed plans to achieve this merger—within the reasonable future—are now being worked on. Both the AFL and CIO are confident that there is no insurmountable barrier. I am confident the merger will take place.—Arthur J. Goldberg, CIO General Counsel.

WHITE COLLAR

More and more the plight of the white-collar worker is being brought into sharper focus. Lately even the national magazines, newspapers, radio commentators and columnists are turning to this problem of 18,000,000 underpaid and voiceless white-collar workers. The answer, noticeably omitted by these writers, is obviously unionization.—Milwaukee Labor Press.


TARIFFS

The extent to which American industry is in fact subject to jeopardy from imports has been greatly overstated. Statements have been made which imply 4,000,000 to 5,000,000 American workers would be in danger of losing their jobs as a result of competitive imports should tariffs and other protections be removed. This is sheer nonsense.—AFL President George Meany.

TWO CELLS

Corrupt labor leaders ought to be kicked out of the labor movement and put in jail, and the employer who bribed them should have the next cell.

—Walter Reuther



There was an executive "veep,"
Who spent long hours
counting sheep,
He tried MILK one night,
before dousing the light
... Now he never has
trouble with sleep!

MILK soothes and
relaxes you for sound,
restful sleep!

Editorials

Knight's Proposals: One Good, Some Half-Good, One Very Bad

The State Federation of Labor News Letter for January 7 naturally expresses the pleasure practically all labor people feel in the defeat for the Speakership of Assemblyman H. Allen Smith. The Fed News Letter was prudently modest in failing to stress what the big dailies have been stressing, the fact that to Neil Hagerty, State Fed secretary, belongs the credit for mobilizing the vote in the Assembly which knocked over Nixonite Smith's ambitions.

But when it comes to reporting the Governor's speech the Fed News Letter perhaps errs a little on the side of enthusiasm for the Knightly character.

Certainly there is one proposal of the Governor's that is highly commendable. This proposal, as the Fed News Letter summarizes it, is:

"An increase in the death benefit so that the widow of a worker killed in an industrial accident would receive \$12,000 in death benefits instead of \$7,000, and a widow with children up to \$17,000 instead of the present maximum of \$8,750."

The Fed News Letter, however, fails to note that the Governor's proposal for upping by \$5 the present maximum weekly benefit of \$35 for workmen temporarily disabled falls \$10 short of the \$50 asked for by the State Fed, and announced in the Fed News Letter just before the Legislature convened. Similarly the News Letter fails to note that the Governor's proposal for upping by \$5 the \$30 maximum weekly payment to permanently disabled workers falls \$15 short of the amount asked for by the State Fed.

We believe that what we in the labor movement are asking as well as what the Governor is proposing should be kept clearly in mind.

Somewhat more surprising is the Fed News Letter's listing as one of the Governor's "six major proposals" the one which the News Letter summarizes as follows:

"Increased benefits in unemployment insurance from the present maximum of \$30 per week by funds saved through more effective enforcement measures."

Surely it is scarcely a "major progressive proposal" to promise a rise in unemployment benefits in some sweet by and bye when the wicked cease from troubling and the weary are at rest. There have been chisellers, yes, but is the whole labor movement therefore to be treated as a bunch of crooks unworthy of unemployment benefits in gear with the times?

We have not observed that the bankers' lobby, or the private utilities' lobby, is told that there can be no more legislation for them because occasionally a banker absconds with the funds or sometimes a private utilities executive is caught doing something against the public interest.

Why, then, should the entire California labor movement be singled out for such discriminatory treatment? Moreover, the State Federation of Labor News Letter announced just before the Legislature convened that the State AFL is asking for a boost of unemployment maximum benefits to \$50 a week. Why is the Governor's insulting reply to this legitimate request called a "major progressive proposal" in the Fed News Letter?

Charles Clough, editor of the Valley Labor Citizen of Fresno, said in an editorial published a few days before the Governor's inaugural address:

"Did we settle for too little when organized labor strongly commended Governor Knight for his role in increasing unemployment insurance benefits from \$25 to \$30 a week earlier this year? (1954). We shall soon see."

Well, we have seen, and the Fed News Letter calls what we have seen a "major progressive proposal."

Clough calls attention in his editorial to the fact that Secretary of Labor Mitchell, with the backing of the Republican Administration, has written the Governors of all States urging them to ask the Legislatures to increase maximum weekly unemployment benefits to the equivalent of "at least half regular earnings." On this Clough comments:

"It would seem that with the backing of the national Republican Administration, we would stand a pretty good chance of winning an increase to this more realistic half-wage mark. But with so much fanfare about the \$5 boost within the past year, we doubt if there will be much done about this increase. We will watch with interest to see if we settled for too little."

Well, we have watched with interest, and we have seen!

Cake With White Road Dust Frosting

Nonagricultural employment in California as this year ended was only 2000 less than in December of last year, according to figures issued by State Director of Industrial Relations Paul Scharrenberg: 3,950,000 employed now, and 3,952,000 in December of last year.

That's like cake with frosting made out of white road dust—it may look good but it won't taste that way when you bite into it.

For the Conference on Economic Progress, with a board which includes many business men as well as some farm and labor representatives, finds the following after a careful study: "By early next year we must (in the U. S. as a whole) create the equivalent of 4½ million full-time jobs, to reduce unemployment to about 1½ million, and to absorb one million new workers." So if California starting the new year 2000 behind, that means more than it seems.

GOVERNOR KNIGHT told Republican women that he will "work constantly to eliminate any problem which might result from a Government half State Socialism and half Free Enterprise." Does he mean that he wishes to have our Government stop handing out subsidies to businessmen who yell "Free Enterprise!" and then whisper, "Please put something in this tin cup, Uncle?"

LEWELLING FLOWER SHOP
Across from San Lorenzo High School
FREE DELIVERY IN THE BAY AREA
Telegraph Service—Member F. T. D. World-wide
Member of Local 70 A. F. of L.
736 LEWELLING BLVD., SAN LORENZO—Phone ELGIN 1-0834

BOOST THE LABEL!
BUY UNION LABEL PRODUCTS ONLY
When making purchases always ask for the union label. If building a home or repairing one see that the men doing the plumbing or steamfitting work, painting job, etc., belong to the union. Ask to see their Card. Boost the union emblem and help yourself. Patronize and demand the following union cards:

REQUEST THIS LABEL **ON ALL YOUR PRINTING**

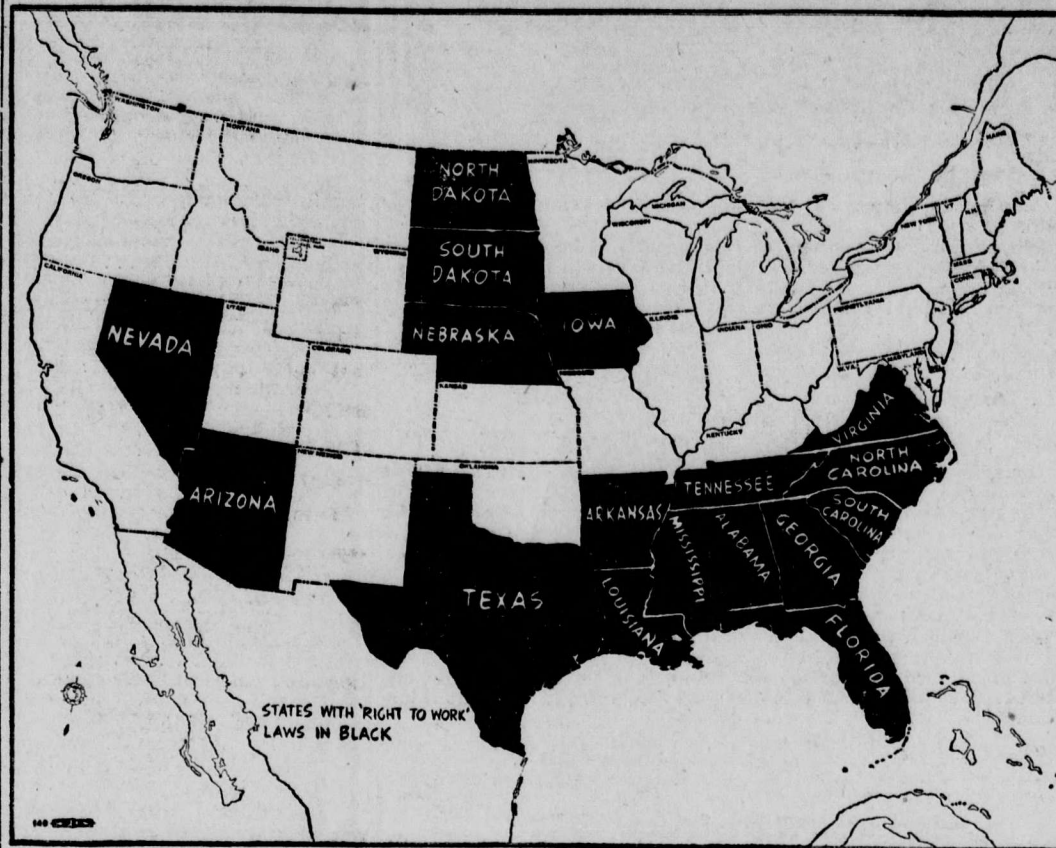
ALIED PRINTING TRADES UNION COUNCIL

LOOK FOR THE EMBLEM

PRINTING - ADVERTISING

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Tony Rossi & Sons, Florists, 1508 Fruitvale Ave., Oakland
Navlet's Flower Shop, 20th and Telegraph, Oakland
Selfer's Floral Co., 4490 Piedmont Ave., Oakland
University Floral Shop, University and Grove, Berkeley
THEATERS
Rio, Alameda
Times, Alameda
Pix, Oakland
Saturday Evening Post
Ladies Home Journal
Country Gentleman
Herb Hobson Co. (Sign and Show-card) Berkeley
Kehm Enterprises, Kehm Signs and/or Acme Signs
E. L. Bushart Service Station Equipment Co., Oakland
Dan McCarthy Monument Co., Raymond Granite Quarries and East Oakland Monument Co.—all located at 6090 Foothill Blvd., Oakland

Blackout on Progress



Truth Took a Beating From Riesel On Oregon Election, Editor Declares

"Truth Takes a Beating From Riesel" is the headline over an editorial by James W. Goodsell, editor of the Oregon Labor Press, in the January 7 issue of that paper.

Goodsell refers to one of Riesel's syndicated columns published in many dailies over the country including the Oakland Tribune; in this column Riesel purported to tell the story of the Oregon election which sent Dick Neuberger to the Senate, the first Democrat to go there in many years.

Riesel said that "hundreds of thousands of dollars" were spent in Oregon labor's register-and-vote campaign. The fact is, says Goodsell, that "not over \$2000, at the very outside, was spent on this campaign. Most of this sum was the cost of printing ballots. There was only one paid worker, an office secretary, in the entire campaign. All the others were union members who volunteered their time and shoeleather."

Riesel said that "in the background was a coalition of old-line veteran Teamsters providing the power for the system worked out by the Democrats."

To this Goodsell replies that "Teamster unions worked hard and effectively on the register-and-vote campaign, and they deserve their full credit for a job well done. But they would be the first to reject the sort of 'credit' given to them by Riesel. The Teamsters worked as equal partners with other AFL and CIO unions, not as sinister masterminds behind the scenes. And it should be emphasized that the Democratic party played no part in labor's campaign. Labor helped to elect liberal candidates of both parties. Volunteer workers in the campaign included both Republicans and Democrats. Campaign workers were expressly forbidden to try to tell anyone how to register or how to vote."

Riesel said that "it is this system which labor hopes to use . . . to take the White House from President Eisenhower."

With this statement, comments Goodsell, "Riesel implies that Oregon labor's register-and-vote campaign was masterminded and financed by 'union bosses' in the East. Anyone who worked in the campaign could tell him that it was strictly an Oregon show, planned and financed by a local group of enthusiastic amateurs and volunteers."

Goodsell contends that "if any well-informed editor in Oregon had received Riesel's column on this state's election, he would have pitched it into the round file with shouts of laughter—or anger—at the sloppiest reporting of the year."

'Free Press' Gone With Jet's Speed But Leaves Smoke Trail Round Tower

"The Free Press Halts Publication With This Issue," was the front page announcement of that Oakland weekly newspaper's January 6 issue. It was explained that Robert L. Osborne, the paper's publisher, is confined to Providence Hospital with a heart attack, and may be there for "the next 14 weeks."

Like a jet plane that many fail to see, its rapid passage, the lively little newspaper left a trail of smoke that wrapped itself gracefully round a certain Tower said to be a landmark in Oakland. This smoke was entitled "A Fable," telling about "a village under the domination of an ancient Crone, who dwelt in a high tower, equipped with four clocks, none of which agreed. The domination of the village stemmed from control of the organ of mass communication in the village."

"The Old Crone," it seems, was "actually a very kindly old gentleman whose heart was in the right place, or in the left side of his chest. He probably intended no harm, but he was held in such mortal and terrible fear by the populace with its inferiority complex, that he needed only to bare his teeth in displeasure at any proposed civic improvement; then the populace yammering with fear, scuttled to the four winds and the four points of the compass."

The fable goes on to tell of a little publication that many people liked, "but of advertisement there was no great dearth. There is no evidence to support it, but probably the Old Crone had simply bared his teeth and the advertisers scurried for the hills. They had been well trained for lo these forty years. And so the little old weekly organ turned up its toes and died the death."

The Oakland Tribune please copy, as old-fashioned papers used to say in funeral notices—and this is the funeral notice for Free Press.)

Gifford Introduced

F. V. Stambaugh, president of Carmen's Division 192, introduced C. R. "Curly" Gifford, newly elected business agent of the Operating Department, to the Central Labor Council delegates Monday night.

WE DON'T PATRONIZE

The following persons and firms, after a thorough examination into the causes at issue, have been deemed unworthy of the patronage of members of organized labor and their friends:

- HOTEL, FOOD, DRUGS
- Hotel Menlo, Oakland
- Portland Hotel, Oakland
- Graystone Apartments
- White Log Tavern
- Peter Paul Candy
- Hoffman Candy
- Blue Goose, Carnation, Red Mule
- Fruit brand
- Vine Valley Shop, Berkeley
- Stier Drug Co., Oakland
- STORES - FACTORIES
- I. Magnin Co.
- John Phillips, Co., Oakland
- Beacon Upholstering Co., Oakland
- Service Distributors (laundry washers) San Francisco
- Robert E. Lee, Television, Berkeley
- McDonnell Bros., Florists, 5128 Telegraph Ave., Oakland
- Tony Rossi & Sons, Florists, 1508 Fruitvale Ave., Oakland
- Navlet's Flower Shop, 20th and Telegraph, Oakland
- Selfer's Floral Co., 4490 Piedmont Ave., Oakland
- University Floral Shop, University and Grove, Berkeley
- THEATERS
- Rio, Alameda
- Times, Alameda
- Pix, Oakland
- PRINTING - ADVERTISING
- Life
- Saturday Evening Post
- Ladies Home Journal
- Country Gentleman
- Herb Hobson Co. (Sign and Show-card) Berkeley
- Kehm Enterprises, Kehm Signs and/or Acme Signs
- E. L. Bushart Service Station Equipment Co., Oakland
- Dan McCarthy Monument Co., Raymond Granite Quarries and East Oakland Monument Co.—all located at 6090 Foothill Blvd., Oakland
- Neon Engineering Co., Oakland
- Burch Brothers, San Mateo
- W. L. Butcher, Kelly's Bazaar & Master Plumber, Alameda
- Alfred L. Baker, Plumbing Contractor, Berkeley
- American Sheet Metal and Roofing Co., Oakland
- J. F. Burnett, roofing, Oakland
- Charles Conkel, sprinkler systems, Livermore
- W. A. Dusenberry, Contractor, Alameda
- Lloyd A. Fry, roofing, San Leandro
- Leonard's Refrigeration, Oakland
- John E. Lutzi, Refrigeration, Oakland
- Electric Refrigeration Service, Oakland
- Allied Heating & Construction Co., Oakland and Berkeley
- Bise Furnace Service, Albany
- Eugene Parcel, Home Heating Co., El Cerrito
- Ray Fox Tile Co., Castro Valley
- Ottovanger Tile Co., Alameda
- Monni Tile Co., Albany
- Jim Meiring Tile Contractor, Oakland
- John Martin, tile, San Leandro
- Howden Tile Co., Oakland
- Charles Conkel, sprinkler systems, Livermore
- William Clark Electric Co., Pleasanton
- Western Interiors Venetian Blind Co., San Pablo
- E. A. Ferracane, exterior decorator, Oakland
- DuPont de Nemours, paint, South San Francisco
- J. Cornetti & Son, Contractors Berkeley
- John J. Roland, general & landscape contractor, Oakland
- George Walker, Contractor, Oakland

LOOK FOR SHOP CARD!
All barbers, all locksmiths, all scale companies not displaying union shop card.

Anti-Housing Solon Wins Housing Post

WASHINGTON (AFL News)—A Congressman who voted against an effective public housing program every time the issue came up in the House during his term there was appointed general counsel of the Housing and Home Finance Agency, the Government's parent housing bureau.

He is Rep. Oakley Hunter, California Republican, who lost his bid for reelection in November to Democrat B. F. Sisk. Hunter will succeed Berchmans Fitzpatrick who was eased out to make way for the new appointee. Fitzpatrick was described as eager to fight for his job.

The switch was called a blow to the career Government service by Senators Estes Kefauver (D. Tenn.) and John Sparkman (D. Ala.). Kefauver said he was outraged at the "dismissal." Fitzpatrick, a Democrat, had been in Government service since 1933 when he joined the Public Works Administration.

Landing the post for Hunter was reportedly the work of Vice President Richard Nixon, a fellow Californian. Nixon, it was understood, first had tried to get Hunter in the Agriculture Department as Assistant Secretary, but Secretary Ezra Taft Benson did not wish to fill that position with a "political appointee."

Women Unionists Are Invited to Meeting of Women Voters' League

Women members of labor unions and wives of labor members are especially invited to attend a meeting of the Oakland League of Women Voters 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, January 26, for the discussion of "Relationship Between Individual Liberty and the Public Interest."

Mrs. Lee Clifford of the League's publicity committee says that this is one of the subjects which the national executive body of the League has set for full discussion this year. The meeting will be held at Sanborn Park Clubhouse, 1637 Fruitvale avenue, Oakland.

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Gum Chewers! Stop Bob Ash Praises Chewin' Chiclets Report on Groups Spreading Hatred

Thomas E. Flynn, chairman of the Eastern Conference of Teamsters, has written to all local unions and labor councils in the United States urging union members to refuse to buy any products manufactured by the anti-union American Chiclet Company.

The company's products include Beeman's Black Jack, Chiclets, Clorrets, Dentyne, Sen-sen and Ucan-tan.

According to Flynn, Teamster Local 819 has been picketing the Long Island City, New York, plant for the past four months. The Teamsters contend that the anti-union conditions and wages under which the American Chiclet's employees work is detrimental to Local 819's making further gains for its members employed at the neighboring union Beechnut plant.

Flynn indicated that the Teamsters considered this struggle as an "all-out fight against this labor-busting, labor-baiting outfit."

He credited the multimillion dollar company with having been successful in defeating all previous union organizing attempts, but he declared, "We will not be defeated this time with the cooperation of all."

PG&E Brochure on 1955 Full of Hope and Good Statistic on the Area

Pacific Gas & Electric has issued a very handsome and hopeful brochure entitled "1955: The Year of Opportunity."

"There is a vibrant tone to the new California," the publication asserts. "Its cities are bursting their seams. New communities by the score are flourishing in metropolitan outskirts and in the countryside, and more are sprouting up. There are busy factories in former fields, thriving cities where once slept drowsy towns, homes a building by the acre, highways and byways teaming bumper to bumper with prospering working men and women, and broad ribbons of freeways unfurling the length and breadth of the State."

The practical purpose of the brochure is to note interesting detail sales possibilities in many types of business serviced by the company. The brochure will be kept on file by East Bay Labor Journal for the valuable statistics it contains.

A WAGE INCREASE of 17 cents an hour and other contract gains were won by 1,500 members of Dairy Employees' Union, Local 754 of the AFL Teamsters after a one-month strike at two Kraft Foods plants in Chicago.

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